



All
Hands

HERALD

April 2007

DEPARTMENT OF FIRE SERVICES • STOW, MASSACHUSETTS

Department of Fire Services
Building Project
to Begin
in April, 2007

DFS Building Project

The DFS building project is finally underway this spring...

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Record Low Fire Deaths in '06

Massachusetts has experienced record low fire deaths three years in a row...

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Turning Over in the Grave

by *Ronnie J Coleman*
Reprinted for Sprinkler Age Magazine, July 2006...

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About the Cover: This is a drawing by DiMella Shaffer, the architects for the new DFS facility, of the main entrance to the new DFS administration building and annex area. The annex area, which will connect the administration building to the current DFS main building, will include the cafeteria, the entrance to a new hearings room, expanded meeting space and a connecting hallway to the crib room and new fire house. A smaller drawing of the main entrance and the entire project, from both a ground level and overhead view, may be found on page 2 .

About the *All Hands Herald*

The *All Hands Herald* is published quarterly by the Department of Fire Services in January, April, July and October. The newsletter is meant to incorporate the traditional fire service meaning- all hands working to extinguish the fire. In the case of our newsletter, all hands includes the DFS staff providing each of you with information, training and assistance in dealing with the fire service issues which confront all levels of the fire service.

We hope that you enjoy our new look and feel and we encourage you to let us know how you like the *All Hands Herald* and what we can do to make it even more useful to you – our dedicated fire service members and customers. If you have suggestions, ideas, questions or want to make a contribution to the *All Hands Herald*, contact Jennifer Mieth at 978-567- 3381 or Donna Nelson at 978-567-3149. Jennifer.Mieth@state.ma.us or Donna.Nelson@dfs.state.ma.us

Sue Peltier and Barry Hyvarinen are the talented contributing photographers; Judy O'Brien is the keen-eyed copy editor; and Jeff Harris is the graphic artist who pulls it all together. ♦



From the Fire Marshal



Photo by: Barry Hyvarinen

New Administration Leadership

I would like to welcome the new team at the Executive Office of Public Safety Secretary Kevin Burke, Undersecretary of Law Enforcement and Fire Services Kurt Schwartz and Undersecretary of Homeland Security Juliette Kayyem. It has been a smooth transition and a pleasure working with them on the issues of concern to the fire service and the communities we protect.

DFS Building Project

The Department of Fire Services' building project will finally get underway this spring, resolving infrastructure problems such as water, and replacing decaying temporary buildings that have outlived their useful lives. The capital project includes a new, two-story administration building for DFS administrative and program staff as well as for public hearings and meetings. The renovation also includes a fire station and vehicle maintenance facility that will house DFS emergency response vehicles as well as training and

facility maintenance vehicles and equipment. The new warehouse and storage building will replace the 22 Conex boxes now used for on-site storage. One of the features of the new complex is that it will be considered a "green" building with several environmentally friendly components especially its innovative use of water and solar energy. Construction is expected to be completed in late 2009. There are more details in an article elsewhere in the *All Hands Herald*.

2006 3rd Consecutive Year of Record Low Fire Deaths

2006 was the third consecutive year of record low fire deaths in the Commonwealth. In 2006, preliminary figures of the Massachusetts Fire Incident Reporting System (MFIRS) show there were 42 civilian fire deaths shattering the previous record low of 52 deaths in 2004 and 2005. There was only a single child fire death in the entire year. The average number of child fire deaths has dropped nearly two-thirds, 63%, since the start of the S.A.F.E. Program in the fall of 1995. Consistent, comprehensive classroom based fire education is certainly a contributing factor since it is the one thing we are doing for this age group that we are not doing for all other age groups.

S.A.F.E. Funding Restored

Governor Patrick and Secretary Burke have restored the FY '07 funds for the Student Awareness of Fire Education or S.A.F.E. Program cut by former Governor Romney. The Executive Office of Public Safety is working on preparing a

DFS Building Project to Begin April 2007

The long awaited Department of Fire Services (DFS) building project is scheduled to commence in April 2007 with the installation of a new 10-inch water main from the Sudbury Water District. Site work and the start of the new DFS warehouse will shortly follow in April and May 2007.

The facility expansion project will consist of the renovation and expansion of inadequate and substandard space at the DFS headquarters, located in Stow, MA. This work is needed to meet the growing administrative and programmatic space needs of DFS, the Commonwealth's fire protection agency, and the training space needed by the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy (MFA), which DFS oversees.

The project includes a new, two-story administration building, approximately 39,000 sq. ft., for DFS administrative staff as well as for public hearings and meetings. Currently, the majority of DFS administrative staff is now housed in nine wooden, modular buildings. The expansion also includes a fire station and vehicle maintenance facility, approximately 18,921 sq. ft. that will house DFS emergency response vehicles as well training and facility maintenance vehicles and equipment. The new warehouse and storage building, approximately 11,600 sq. ft., will replace the 22 Conex boxes now used for on-site storage.

The project will also renovate the existing 36,740 sq. ft. MFA building in order to accommodate training needs, including the addition of adequate locker space for storing training gear and equipment. In addition, a "link" building, approximately

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Marshal

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grant application process and applications should be in fire chiefs' hands by the time this newsletter reaches them.

Staff Changes

At this time, the Mass. Fire Training Council and the Department of Fire Services are in the middle of interviewing candidates for the position of Mass. Firefighting Academy Director. Laurent McDonald resigned in December 2006. We thank him for his service and wish him well. In the interim, Kevin Partridge, our Director of Emergency Response and Homeland Security, is also serving as the Director of the Mass. Firefighting Academy.

Juvenile Firesetting Conference

DFS is pleased to be partnering with the Brandon, an adolescent residential treatment center, and the Mass. Association of Fire and Safety Educators (MA SAFE) to co-sponsor the May 11 *Northeast Juvenile Firesetting Conference: Pathways to Collaboration and Intervention*. Juvenile firesetting continues to be a serious problem in Massachusetts that requires a multi-disciplinary approach. While this conference will have something for everyone who interacts with these children, it will have special emphasis on developing and training mental health providers. ♦

DFS Building Project

Continued from Page 1

8,173 sq. ft., will connect the current MFA building, the new administration building and the new firehouse. This "link" will include conference and meeting space, a cafeteria with a kitchen, and a gear area with instructor facilities to support on-site MFA training.

The final design will emphasize a sustainable and environmentally sound approach, including innovative water use while meeting all local, state and federal environmental regulations. A minimum LEED gold rating is expected for the project. (The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, or LEED, Green Building Rating System™ is the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction, and operation of high performance green buildings.)

The project is being designed by DiMella Shaffer Associates, a Boston-based architectural firm selected by the State Design Selection Board, and will be built in phases by Consigli Construction of Milford, MA. The design and construction are being overseen by the Department of Capital Asset Management (DCAM) in accordance with state construction regulations.

It is projected that the existing DFS facility will remain in operation during

construction. There are currently four construction phases to the project after initial ground-breaking in April 2007. These phases are:

Phase 1

April thru Sept. 2007

Facility-wide site work and construction of the new storage and warehouse building and parking areas. Projected completion: September 2007.

Phase 2

Sept. 2007 thru May 2008

Site work, construction and completion of administration building by May 2008.

Phase 3

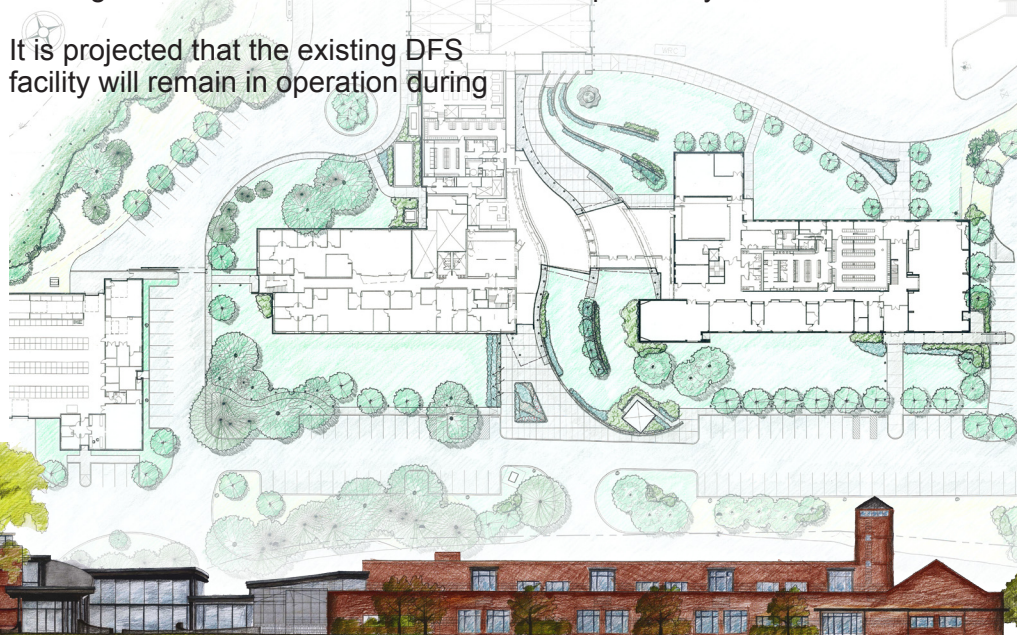
May 2008 thru Feb. 2009

Site work, construction and completion of the new fire house and "Crib Room" by Feb. 2009.

Phase 4

Feb. thru Oct. 2009

Construction of the "link" building with completion by August 2009 and re-modeling of the MFA building for completion by Oct. 2009. ♦



An official ground breaking ceremony is anticipated in late spring 2007

State Fire Marshal Announces 2006 Record Low Number of Civilian Fire Deaths

State Fire Marshal Stephen D. Coan said "Massachusetts has experienced a record low number of fire deaths for the third year in a row." He added, "In 2006, preliminary figures of the Massachusetts Fire Incident Reporting System (MFIRS) show there were 42 civilian fire deaths shattering the previous record low of 52 deaths in 2004 and 2005."

Smoking Once Again Remains the #1 Cause of Fire Deaths

Coan said, "Preliminary analysis shows that smoking is once again the leading cause of fatal fires and fire deaths in Massachusetts. We expect this will change when the sale of only fire-safe cigarettes are introduced into Massachusetts beginning in January of 2008. We anticipate more record low numbers of fire deaths in the years to come."

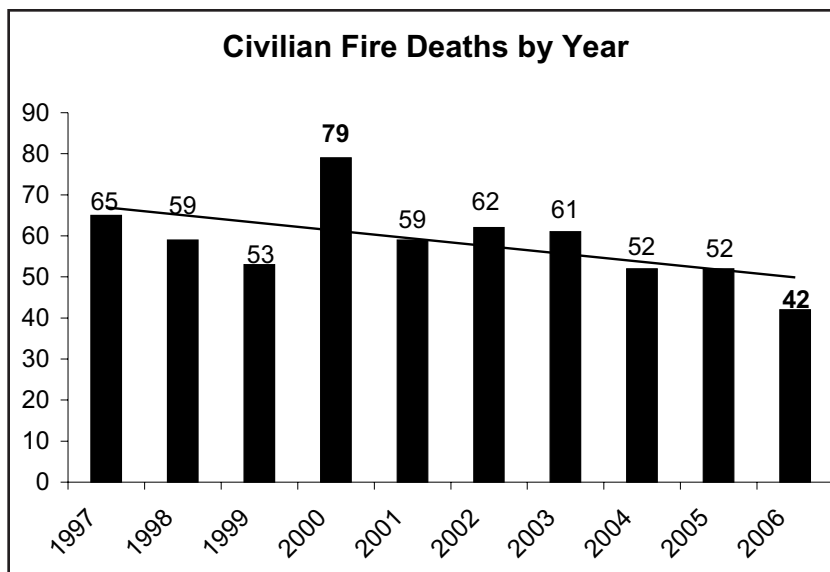
42 Fire Deaths - Only One Child

Of the 42 fire deaths in Massachusetts last year, 26 were men, 15 were women and one was a child. Coan said, "We are not aware of ever having such a low number of children die in fires in the Commonwealth."

Thirty-three (33) people died in 28 structure fires. Six (6) people died in six motor vehicle fires. Three (3) people died in three outside and other fires. In 2006, there were 6.6 fire deaths per 1 million residents in Massachusetts, down from 8.2 fire deaths per 1 million population in 2005 and 2004.

Boston, Worcester & Springfield Together Had Only 5 Deaths

Commonwealth Making Progress Against Fire Deaths



State Fire Marshal Stephen Coan said, "Although one death or injury is one too many, we are making strides in reducing the vulnerability of Massachusetts residents being killed or injured in a fire." Marshal Coan added, "Our relentless goal is to reduce the deaths, injuries and damage fires do in the Commonwealth and to send each and every firefighter home safely at the end of their shift."

Fire Deaths Well Below 5- and 10-Year Averages

The three largest cities in the Commonwealth; Boston, Worcester and Springfield, had only five fire-related deaths combined. Boston had two, Worcester had one and Springfield had two fire-related deaths in 2006.

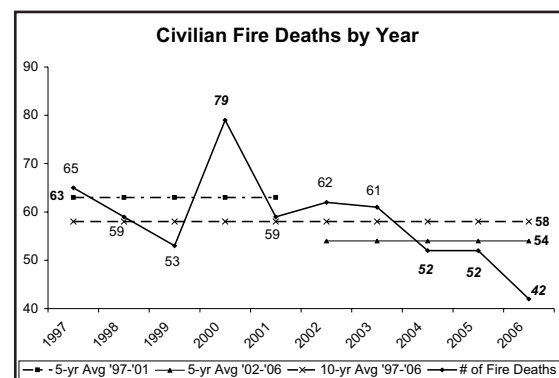
The forty-two (42) deaths are well below both the 10-year average of 58 fire deaths (1997 – 2006) and the 5-year average of 54 fire deaths (2002 – 2006).

No Fire-Related Firefighter Deaths

There were no fire-related firefighter deaths in 2006.

Smoke Detectors & Escape Plans Save Lives

Coan said, "Working smoke alarms save lives. "Early detection of even the smallest fire gives occupants time to safely exit the building and notify the local fire department while waiting for the professionals who have the proper tools and training to effectively manage the situation. He added, "Smoke detectors are just the first step in the process. It's important to hold fire drills at home so once a detector sounds, everyone will know how to get safely outside to the meeting place."



Massachusetts Fire Incident Reporting System

Fire death statistics are based on available records going back to World War II and data from the Massachusetts Fire Incident Reporting System (1982-2006). Fire departments are required to report all fires and explosions with a dollar loss or human casualty to the Mass. Fire Incident Reporting System (MFIRS). ♦

Fire in Sprinklered Georgetown Apartments

State Fire Marshal Stephen D. Coan and Georgetown Fire Chief Michael Anderson announced on January 5, 2007 that their investigative team has determined the January 3, 2007 fire at the Longview Apartments in Georgetown started on a third floor balcony. The investigators have concluded that the fire was unintentional and have ruled out most accidental ignition sources but are unable to eliminate the improper disposal of smoking materials as a cause.

The fire at 7 Patriot Lane, Georgetown was jointly investigated by members of the Georgetown Fire Department, Georgetown Police Department and State Police assigned to the Office of the State Fire Marshal's North Team.

Chief Anderson said, "I am grateful that no one was injured in this fire. I would like acknowledge the efforts

of the members of the Georgetown Fire Department and to thank the many neighboring fire departments who provided mutual aid." He added, "I have been amazed by the great community spirit shown by the outpouring of help for the fire victims."

State Fire Marshal Coan said, "Code compliance officers in the Office of the State Fire Marshal are continuing to work with the Georgetown Fire Department to see if there are any lessons to be learned in order to prevent a similar occurrence either in this complex or elsewhere in the Commonwealth." He added, "It is important to understand why there was this much damage in a sprinklered building."

The Code Compliance and Enforcement Unit and Fire Protection Engineers continue to investigate code-related issues.

Avon Fire Caused by Juvenile

State Fire Marshal Stephen D. Coan and Avon Fire Chief Robert Spurr announced that their joint investigation into the February 7, 2007 residential fire at 112 West Spring Street was caused by juvenile firesetting.

State Fire Marshal Coan said, "Juvenile firesetting is an all too common problem in the state and the country. We know that juveniles will continue to set fires until and unless they receive appropriate intervention with

this behavior."

Chief Spurr said, "We will be working to enroll the juvenile into the Norfolk Firewall Partnership, a juvenile firesetting intervention program managed by the Norfolk District Attorney's Office." He added, "When children have an inappropriate relationship with fire, adults must listen when children are telling us they need help."

Arrest Made in Plum Island Arson

State Fire Marshal Stephen D. Coan, Newbury Fire Chief Wallace Ziehler and Newbury Police Chief Michael Reilly announced that Jackie Wayne Hutson, age 47, has been charged with setting fire to 10 and 12 Old Point Road on Plum Island on February 1, 2007.

The fire was jointly investigated by State Police fire investigators in the Office of the State Fire Marshal's North Team and officials from the Newbury Fire and Newbury Police Departments. The investigation revealed that fire at 10 Old Point

Children Playing With Fire Caused 176 Fires, 2 Civilian Deaths & \$1.6 Million in 2005

In 2005, fire departments reported to the Massachusetts Fire Incident Reporting System that children playing with matches, lighters and other heat sources caused 176 reported fires, two civilian deaths, 15 civilian injuries, eight fire service injuries and an estimated dollar loss of nearly \$1.6 million. The average dollar loss per fire was \$8,952.

Parents and Caregivers Must Protect Children from Themselves

Parents and caregivers must take steps to protect their children from the dangers of fire.

- Make sure that all matches and lighters are stored out of children's reach.
- If you need a lighter, buy one that is child resistant. Since, 1994, all disposable butane lighters and most novelty-lighters must be able to resist the efforts of 85% of children under 5 who tried to operate them in a specified test. Some are easier to use than others. If one brand is cumbersome, switch to another. Do not disable the child-resistant feature.
- Supervise young children at all times. Teach children the safe uses of fire, such as birthday candles and barbecuing. When a child is old enough, let him or her light the candles while you watch. It is only safe for children to use fire when adults are present.
- If your child seems overly curious about fire or has set a fire, call your local fire department and ask if they have a juvenile firesetters intervention program. Don't assume the child will 'grow out of it.' Juvenile firesetting is dangerous and must be addressed.
- Smoking parents should keep their lighter on their person at all times, not on the table or in a purse. ♦

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London Fire Commissioner, Sir Ken Knight Discusses Terrorism with Public Safety Officials

Public Safety Secretary Kevin M. Burke and State Fire Marshal Stephen D. Coan hosted a presentation by London Fire Commissioner, Sir Ken Knight, on Monday, February 26, 2007 at the Devens Common Center, 31 Andrews Parkway, Devens, MA to members of the public safety community.

Sir Ken Knight is head of the London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority, responsible for the Capital's Fire and Rescue Service, the London Fire Brigade. He discussed how the threat of terrorism affects the London Fire Brigade and public safety agencies throughout the city of London, incident management principles utilizing a multi-agency response and how responders deal with incident stress. Sir Knight also briefed attendees on the July 7, 2005 London



Sir Ken Knight

Photo: London Fire Brigade

bombings, a series of coordinated bomb blasts that struck London's system during the morning rush hour. At 8:50 a.m., three bombs exploded within 50 seconds of each other on three London Underground trains. A fourth bomb exploded on a bus nearly an hour later at 9:47 a.m. in Tavistock Square. The bombings killed 52 commuters and the four suicide bombers, as well as causing a severe, day-long disruption of the city's transport and mobile telecommunications infrastructure. London fire, emergency medical service, law enforcement and many other agencies responded. The response of the many different agencies and the "lessons learned" were discussed. ♦

USFA Releases Clothes Dryer Fire Report

January 31, 2007

EMMITSBURG, MD. – The U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) announced the release of a report today regarding residential building clothes dryer fires. Between the years 2002-2004, an annual average of 12,700 clothes dryer fires occurred in residential buildings. These fires were responsible for an estimated 15 civilian fire deaths, 300 civilian fire injuries, and \$88 million in property loss each year.

In residential buildings, operational deficiency, including "failure to clean", is the leading factor contributing to clothes dryer fires, followed by mechanical malfunction and electrical failure. Approximately 62% of clothes dryer fires are confined to the object of fire origin while about 27% are confined to the room of origin.

The report, *Clothes Dryer Fires in*

Residential Buildings, was developed by the USFA's National Fire Data Center as part of its Topical Fire Research Series and is based on data from the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) for 2002-2004. The report examines the characteristics of clothes dryer fires and provides recommendations for clothes dryer fire safety.

A copy of the topical report can be downloaded from: <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/statistics/reports/>

The Department of Fire Services has a *FireFactors* on Dryer Fire Safety. It is a one-page, two-sided educational flyer that can be downloaded from www.Mass.gov/dfs click on *Fire Prevention, Public Education, Fire Safety Topics*. Master paper copies can be obtained by calling the Public Education Unit at (978) 567-3380. ♦

FIU

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Road was intentionally set near a wood stove on the first floor. Two firefighters were injured when they fell through the floor near the area of origin. The building was undergoing renovations at the time and was not occupied. Investigators also determined that the fire at 12 Old Point Road was intentionally set in a corner of the basement. The fire displaced three people, including Mr. Hutson. Damage to the two buildings is estimated at \$600,000.

Shortly after the fire Hutson was arrested for disorderly conduct, assault and battery on a police officer and injuring a firefighter. After the conclusion of the cause and origin investigation, Hutson was charged with one count of burning a dwelling, one count of burning a building and two counts of causing injury to a firefighter. ♦

The following are excerpts from press releases issued by the U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission (CPSC) regarding products recalled for fire or burn hazards. Consumers should immediately stop using any of these products and contact the U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission or the manufacturer for instructions on how to proceed. The web address is: www.cpsc.gov



BATTERIES

12/14/06 07-056

Batteries in Clarion N.I.C.E. P200 Navigation & Entertainment Systems

Clarion Corporation of America

The lithium-ion batteries in these units can melt or overheat posing burn & fire hazards.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml07/07056.html>

2/13/07 07-101

Battery Packs for Toy Vehicles

JAKKS Pacific Inc.

The lithium-ion batteries used to charge the toy vehicles can ignite posing a fire hazard.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml07/07101.html>

BOILERS

12/19/06 07-063

Bermuda BSI & Cayman CWI Series Gas Boilers Crown Boiler Co.

The boilers can generate excessive levels of carbon monoxide in the flue gases, posing a risk of CO poisoning.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml07/07063.html>

1/25/07 07-089

"Erie Boiler Boss" Operating & Reset Controls

TAC LLC

These boiler controls can fail, causing water temperatures to rise to the high limit causing scalds from unexpectedly hot water during use.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml07/07089.html>

CANDLES

11/21/06 07-038

Gourd Candles

Pottery Barn

The candles can have excessive flame height & could fail to self-extinguish when burn down posing a fire & burn hazard.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml07/07038.html>



1/25/07 07-090

Tea Lights Sold with Votive Candle Holders

Sally Foster, Inc

The tea light candles have a clear, plastic shell that can melt or ignite posing a fire or burn hazard.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml07/07090.html>

1/30/07 07-092

Old Williamsburg Mason Jar Candles (sizes 3.5-5 oz.)

Old Williamsburg Candle Corp.

The wick can move from the center of the jar to the side causing the glass to overheat and possibly crack or shatter. Exposure to broken glass & molten wax poses laceration & burn hazards.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml07/07092.html>

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

12/14/06 07-055

Hobby Lobby Christmas Light Sets

Hobby Lobby Stores, Inc.

The lights have undersized wires which can separate from the plugs &/or light sockets, posing a shock & fire hazard.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml07/07055.html>



CIRCUIT BREAKERS

11/16/06 07-036

Counterfeit "Square D" Circuit Breakers

Scott Electric Co., Inc.

The circuit breakers are counterfeit and may not trip when they are overloaded, posing a fire hazard.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml07/07036.html>

CURLING IRONS

2/7/07 07-097

Curling Irons

Conair Corp.

The handle of the curling iron can come apart, exposing its line cord, posing a shock or electrocution hazard.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml07/07097.html>

CUT-OUT TOOLS

12/21/06 07-067

DEWALT Model DW660 Cut-Out Tools

DEWALT Industrial Tool Co.

The cord wire in these units could be damaged internally, posing a shock hazard.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml07/07067.html>

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CPSC Recalls & Releases

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DISHWASHERS

2/1/07 07-094

Maytag & Jenn-Air Brand Dishwashers

Maytag Corp.

Liquid rinse-aid can leak from its dispenser & come into contact with the internal wiring which can short-circuit & ignite posing a fire hazard.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml07/07094.html>

FANS

1/24/07 07-086

Oscillating Tower Fans

The Holmes Group

Electrical arcing in the fan's wiring can cause a fire hazard.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml07/07086.html>

GENERATORS

1/4/07 07-072

DEWALT DG2900 Portable Generators

DEWALT Industrial Tool Co.

A ground fault circuit interruptor (GFCI) installed on the generator could fail to operate properly, posing a risk of electric shock.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml07/07072.html>

HAIR DRYERS

1/24/07 07-087

Travel 'N Baby Mini Hair Dryers

Detour Corp. d/b/a Version-X

These electric hair dryers are not equipped

with an immersion protection plug to prevent electrocution if the hair dryer falls into water, posing a shock &/or an electrocution hazard.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml07/07087.html>

LAMPS

11/16/06 07-037

Taylor Desk Lamp

Environmental Lighting Concepts Inc.

The fiberglass sheath intended to protect the electrical cord can become misaligned and poses a shock hazard.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml07/07037.html>



1/31/07 07-093

Electric Oil Lamps

Hong Teng Trading (USA) Inc.

The power cord is not polarized & is undersized & is not correctly secured & there is no strain relief on the switch housing. The switch housing is not flame-retardant. All these pose shock & fire hazards.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml07/07093.html>

POOL HEATERS

1/4/07 07-073

MiniMaz NT STD Gas Pool Heaters

Water Pool & Spa Inc.

These pool heaters can emit excessive carbon monoxide posing a risk of CO poisoning in the event of a vent leak in an indoor installation.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml07/07073.html>

RECIPROCATING SAW

12/21/06 07-068

DEWALT DS305 Model Reciprocating Saws

DEWALT Industrial Tool Co.

The switch on these saws can short circuit posing a fire hazard.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml07/07068.html>

SAFETY SWITCHES

12/1/06 07-062

General Duty Safety Switches

Square D Co.

The safety switch can continue to supply electricity even after being placed in the "OFF" position, posing the risk of an electric shock or electrocution hazard.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml07/07062.html>

SEPTIC PUMPS

2/14/07 07-104

Zoeller Brand Septic Pumps

Zoeller Pump Co.

The plug on the pumps could have a grounding problem that could pose an electrical shock hazard.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml07/07104.html>

SPACE HEATERS

1/5/07 07-076

Oscillating Ceramic Heaters

Family Dollar Stores

The heaters can overheat & smoke, posing a fire hazard.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml07/07076.html>

TOYS

2/6/07 07-096

Easy-Bake Ovens

Hasbro, Inc.

Young children can insert their hands into the oven's opening & get their hands or fingers caught, posing a burn hazard.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml07/07096.html> ♦

MASSACHUSETTS FIREFIGHTING ACADEMY

2007 Senior Fire Officer Forum Schedule

This year the Department of Fire Services is proud to again present the Senior Fire Office Forum, an educational series to develop leadership and command skills in the fire service. The Senior Fire Offices Forum includes six seminars for senior fire officials presented by nationally known experts starting November 2006 and running through May 2007.

Time: All of the forums will be held from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. except March 31, 2007, which will be held from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Fee: All of the seminars require pre-registration and for some, a fee will be charged for lunch.

Locations and Directions:

Most of the seminars will be held at the Devens Common Center, 31 Andrews Parkway, Devens, Massachusetts. Directions, may be found at www.DevensCommonCenter.com

Registration Required:

Register online at www.mass.gov/dfs/mfa or fax a [MFA registration form](#) to (978) 567- 3229

There is one more exciting presentation as part of this year's series.

Thurs., May 10, 2007
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m

Empowering Your People: Leadership For Today's Fire Service

Speaker: Chief Cecil V. "Buddy" Martinette, Lynchburg, VA
Location: Devens Common Center Buffet Lunch Cost: \$16.00 (pre-registration required) ♦

MFA Firefighters Graduate Call/Volunteer Firefighter Training Program

State Fire Marshal Stephen D. Coan and Massachusetts Firefighting Academy Deputy Director Richard Farrar presented certificates of completion to members of the *Call/Volunteer Firefighter Training* class #14 in a graduation ceremony at 7:30 p.m. on March 1, 2007. The recruit graduation took place at the Mahaiwe Theatre, 14 Castle Street, Great Barrington, MA.

The *Call/Volunteer Firefighter Training* program is unique in that it delivers a standard recruit training curriculum, meeting national standards, on nights and weekends to accommodate the schedule of firefighters in suburban and rural areas. Bringing the training closer to the firefighters often means more firefighters can participate. This program was held at the Great Barrington Fire Department. The Fire Chiefs' Association of Massachusetts persuaded the Legislature to financially support this innovative delivery of off-site training.

The twenty-two graduates; twenty men and two women, represent the ten fire departments of: Alford, Cheshire, Egremont, Great Barrington, Monterey, New Marlborough, Richmond, Sheffield, Tyringham, and Wilbraham.

In this Massachusetts Firefighting Academy program, they learn all these skills and more from certified fire instructors who are also experi-

enced firefighters. Students learn all the basic skills they need to respond to fires and to contain and control them. They are also given training in public fire education, incident command, hazardous material incident mitigation, flammable liquids, self-contained breathing apparatus, stress management, water rescue procedures, confined space rescue techniques, and rappelling. The intensive program includes classroom instruction, physical fitness training, firefighter skills training and live firefighting practice. Graduates have completed over 180 hours of training on nights and weekends.

Basic Firefighter Skills

Students receive classroom training in all basic firefighter skills. They practice first under non-fire conditions and then during controlled fire conditions. To graduate, students must demonstrate proficiency in life safety, search and rescue, ladder operations, water supply, pump operation, and fire attack. Fire attack operations range from mailbox fires to multiple-floor or multiple room structural fires. Upon successful completion of the *Call/Volunteer Firefighter Training* program these firefighters are now be eligible to take an examination for certification to the level of Firefighter I or II by the Massachusetts Fire Training Council.



CALL/VOL FF Class #14 Graduates

Photo by Barry Hyvarinen

CODE COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT

Office of the State Fire Marshal Advisories

Office of the State Fire Marshal Advisories are sent by mail and email to fire chiefs. They are also posted on the DFS website www.mass.gov/dfs and look for *OSFM Advisories* under *Fire Prevention* and *News*.

If you have any questions please contact our Technical Services Unit at 978-567-3375 or in Western MA 413-587-3181.

January 5, 2007 **Places of Assembly**

As we approach another anniversary of The Station nightclub fire, a recent overcrowding situation in Massachusetts at a nightclub called Emi Safari (as detailed in a recent All Hands Herald), once again reinforces the importance of effective code enforcement in places of public assembly and the new enhanced penalties for violations as a result of dangerous conditions within places of assembly.

Three new sections of state law passed as part of the comprehensive Fire Safety Act after The Station nightclub fire, that provide significant criminal penalties for individuals who violate the state's fire laws. Please consider taking a few minutes during your next assembly inspection to discuss and review these new enhanced penalties with the appropriate owner and manager. Also, consider leaving a copy with the owner/manager. These new laws are applicable to all places of assembly, as identified in 780 CMR, the State Building Code (A-1, A-2, A-3, A-4 and A-5).

For your assistance in completing inspections of these establishments, we are also attaching a sample checklist. While this checklist does not cover every possible scenario, it can also be used as a tool to guide the local inspector as the checklist has identified fire code sections for each suggested area of inspection. As a reminder, if you find a code

violation, be sure to provide a written document indicating such violation (a 148A non-criminal citation or notice of violation).

The Code Compliance and Enforcement Unit is available to assist the heads of fire departments on a 24 hour/7 day a week basis by contacting the State Operations Center at MEMA at 508-820-2000.

January 5, 2007 **527 CMR 31 – Carbon Monoxide (CO) Alarms**

There appears to be some confusion on the deadlines regarding compliance with 527 CMR 31. I am, therefore, sending out this short piece of information to assist you.

527 CMR 31 Reminder to All Fire Departments:

Please share this with your fire prevention officers who are working to implement the CO regulations.

The Legislature has extended the deadline for Commonwealth and public housing authority owned occupancies and those occupancies where the Board of Fire Prevention Regulations has mandated hard-wired installations, (at its September 2006 meeting) to January 1, 2008.

Many building owners and some fire prevention officials may be confused and think that this legislative extension also applies to those residential occupancies that were mandated to meet the March 31, 2006 deadline but chose to take advantage of the alternative compliance hardwire option.

Those residential occupancies that requested an extension pursuant to CMR 31.04 (1)(d) to install hard-wired CO detectors (or other alternative compliance option) and who have applied to local fire department prior to 5-15-06, must still have the detectors installed by January 1, 2007 as required by law.

527 CMR 31.04(1) (d)

Alternative compliance deadline for certain installations:

Any owner who intends to meet the requirements of 527 CMR 31.04 by installing either: (1) ac (alternating current) primary power source with battery back up or wired, low voltage, carbon monoxide alarm protection or (2) an Alternative Compliance Option of 527 CMR 31.04 (1)(c), shall not be required to complete such installation until 1-1-07 if said owner provides written notification of such intent to the head of the fire department by 5-15-06. The submission of such notification shall be deemed to be the consent by the owner to the future inspection of the subject building by the head of the fire department to determine compliance. Installation of carbon monoxide alarm protection pursuant to 527 CMR 31.04(1)(d) may be allowed notwithstanding the late filing of the written notification, only upon the approval of the head of the fire department who may require temporary carbon monoxide alarm protection pending the completion of installation.

All other residential properties should already have installed CO alarm as of March 31, 2006.

January 5, 2007 **Special Effects in School Productions**

It has come to our attention that some schools are using special effects as part of school theatre productions. We suggest that you meet with your public and private school officials to review the state laws regarding the use of special effects in school plays and at special events. We have recently received inquiries about the use of flash paper and flash powder. This is a reminder that the use of flash paper and flash powder is prohibited by law, unless

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under the direct supervision of a person holding a current Certificate of Competency for Special Effects.

After the West Warwick, RI fire, Chapter 304 of the Acts of 2004 created an enhanced criminal penalty now in effect as M.G.L. 148 Section 34A, prohibiting the use of pyrotechnics without a properly issued permit. This statute, in part states: that any owner, occupant, lessee or other person having control or supervision of any assembly use building, and who causes or permits a dangerous condition to exist on the premise at anytime shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$5,000 or by imprisonment in the house of correction for not more than 2-1/2 years or both. Specifically, item 4 of the statute states: the use of any firework or pyrotechnic devices, as defined by the Board of Fire Prevention Regulations without a properly issued permit.

Due to the obvious hazards in working with special effects devices by unlicensed individuals, the Office of the State Fire Marshal is asking that you reach out to the schools in your community to alert them to the fact that any type of special effects in their productions must be conducted by properly licensed and permitted individuals. School officials should closely review the plans for each production, and notify the fire department to determine permitting requirements, regardless of quantity of materials involved.

February 1, 2007 **Federal Energy Act of 2005 Affects USTs**

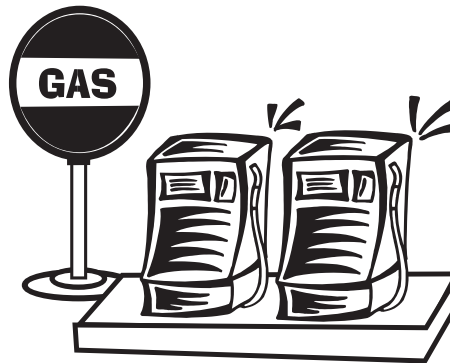
On August 8, 2005, President Bush signed into law the Federal Energy Act of 2005. This act contains a number of provisions related to underground storage tanks.

The attached document provides highlights of the underground storage tank provisions. Fire departments can expect to see increased inspection by compliance officers from this office. The Energy Act mandates that all underground

storage tanks that have not been inspected since December 1998 be inspected by August 2007. In many cases, compliance officers will need assistance with tank documentation from fire departments.

Underground Storage Tank Provisions of the Federal Energy Act of 2005

On August 8, 2005, President Bush signed into law the Energy Policy Act of 2005. Title XV, Subtitle B of this Act is entitled Underground Storage Tank Compliance Act of 2005. This law significantly impacts federal and state underground storage tank programs and will require major changes to the programs. These changes



will impact both public and private owners of underground storage tank facilities.

The focus of the Energy Act provisions is on preventing releases from underground storage tank systems. The public records provisions will require implementation by August 2006; others will require implementation in subsequent years.

The following are some of the most significant provisions.

Inspecting Underground Storage Tanks

States receiving EPA funding (Massachusetts receives such funding) must conduct on-site inspections of all underground storage tank facilities that have not been inspected since December 22, 1998. These inspections must be conducted no

later than August 2007. Thereafter, states must inspect these facilities at least once every three years. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) may grant an additional year to complete the first three-year inspection cycle. A number of states, including Massachusetts are considering requiring tank owners and operators to hire third party inspectors to complete the tri-annual inspections.

Operator Training

States receiving EPA funding must develop state specific requirements for the training of three separate classes of operator IE: owner, manager, and employee. All of these employees will be required to have job specific training related to underground storage tanks. Massachusetts as well as other states are looking to industry and third parties to develop the actual training.

Public Records

States receiving EPA funding must maintain and update at least annually, and make available to the public records of regulated underground storage tanks. EPA will determine the manner and form for the information. The information must contain the number, source, and causes of underground storage tank release(s), the record of compliance and information on equipment failures. Much of this information is already available on the Department of Fire Services website www.mass.gov/dfs.

Fuel Delivery Prohibition

States receiving EPA funding must develop guidelines to implement delivery prohibition to underground storage tanks. The authority to prohibit delivery already exists in Massachusetts General Law Chapter 148 § 38G. Additional procedures for identifying prohibition criteria, and owner notification will need to be developed. The procedures must be in place no later than August 2007.

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Secondary Containment or Financial Responsibility

All new or replacement tanks, piping and dispenser systems located within 1000 feet of a community water supply or drinking water well must have secondary containment with interstitial monitoring OR the manufacturer and/or installer of the tanks, piping, and dispenser systems must maintain evidence of financial responsibility ... "in order to provide for the costs of corrective action directly related to releases caused by improper manufacturer or installation." Many states including Massachusetts are considering the secondary containment option. Requirements must be in place no later than February 8, 2007.

[Note: Proposed regulations waiting for EPA Guidance.]

Certification of Tank Installers/Tank Installations

All underground storage tank systems will be required to be installed by certified or licensed /certified people, or be certified by certified/licensed individuals. Private certification services currently exist for tank installers. Massachusetts along with other states is considering adopting this private certification system. Requirements must be in place no later than February 8, 2007.

[Note: Proposed regulations waiting for EPA Guidance.]

The Department of Fire Service is currently working with the EPA and stakeholders (UST trade organizations, fire services, Board of Fire Prevention Regulations) to define the issues, and propose solutions. For further information you may contact Code Compliance & Enforcement Supervisor Dave Beaudin at 978-567-3711.

January 30, 2007
M.G.L. c. 148, §13
Annual Filing

Certificate of Registration and Underground Storage Tanks

We have received questions regarding underground storage tank (UST) inspections and permit requirements pursuant to 527 CMR 9.00. Below is

a minimum list of items that we recommend be verified prior to issuing Permits (FP-290).

Underground Storage Tank Requirements:

Verify that all leak detection equipment has been operated and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions; including routine maintenance and service checks for operability. Assure that the equipment is operational and running. [9.05(D)(3)]

If a product line leak detector is used on pressurized piping and includes an automatic flow restrictor, automatic shutoff device or a continuous alarm system; an annual test of the operation of the leak detector must be conducted in accordance with the manufacturer's requirements. In addition, one of the following must be performed:

- an annual test on the piping;
- monthly monitoring for vapors in the soil; or
- monthly statistical inventory reconciliation (SIR) analysis. [9.05(G)(8)(b)]

Steel UST's, utilizing a sacrificial or galvanic anode cathodic protection system, shall be tested in accordance with the following:

- If test results indicate a negative voltage of at least -0.90 volts, the system shall be tested at three-year intervals;
- If test results indicate a negative voltage between -0.85 to -0.90, the system shall be tested annually thereafter;
- If test results indicate a negative voltage of less than -0.85, the system is inadequate and should be evaluated by a corrosion expert. [9.05(H)(4)]

Steel UST's protected by an impressed current cathodic protection system, should have the system tested upon installation and annually thereafter. In addition to annual testing, impressed current systems shall be inspected every 60 days to ensure the equipment is operating as designed.

Acceptable system operating voltage and amperage ranges shall be affixed to the rectifier. System voltage and amperage readings shall be recorded every 60 days. If system voltage or amperage readings are outside the range determined to be acceptable, a corrosion expert should evaluate the system. [9.05(H)(5)]

Owners and operators of UST's must demonstrate financial responsibility for taking corrective action arising from an accidental release of petroleum product. [9.07(N)]. Note: minimum coverage of \$1,000,000 per occurrence is required. A valid Certificate of Compliance from the Department of Revenue will be considered as meeting this requirement.

This office recommends Permits issued under 527 CMR 9.00 expire to coincide with any testing due as outlined above.

Also, as a reminder: for self-service motor fuel stations, fire suppression systems must be in compliance and inspected semi-annually in accordance with 527 CMR 23.00. If the fire suppression system has not been serviced, the station should only operate with an attendant pumping fuel. This is also an opportunity to review all the facilities within your city/town for compliance with MGL 148 section 13 and the requirement for land licenses on premises that utilize flammable/combustible liquids, gases, solids or explosive materials.

FIREGROUND REHABILITATION GUIDELINES

COLD WEATHER INCIDENTS LASTING 30-60 MINUTES:

- Fluid replacement with water at cool to room temperature (56- 72 Deg. F)
- During air bottle changes, have water available for refills - 8 oz./bottle change.

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INCIDENTS LASTING**> 60 MINUTES:**

- During air bottle changes have water available for re-fills - 8 oz./bottle change.

For companies arriving at rehab provide the following:

- Fluid replacement with water and sports drink 50/50 mixture at cool to room temperature. If using powdered drink mix - double the water amount directed.
- Warm, decaffeinated fluids that are easily digested such as hot chocolate or soup/broth.
- Easily digested foods such as plain sandwiches, stew, fruits, snack bars, plain pizza.
- Do not include fried foods or high fat foods. (i.e. donuts, pastries, burgers)
- Do not provide carbonated or caffeinated drink options.
- Fluids should be consumed at a rate of 7-10 oz. for every 20 min. of firefighting activity.

REHAB SITE GUIDELINES:

- Rehab area should be warm.
- Encourage firefighters to remove wet clothing and replace with dry clothing as possible.

NOTES:

- Caffeine ingestion causes dehydration, increases heart rate and blood pressure and may cause irregular heart rate.
- Including sodium in re-hydration fluids helps prevent hyponatremia from excessive perspiration and repletion with water only.
- Cool to room temperature fluids are more readily absorbed by the body and are easier to consume when working.
- Concentrated drinks and foods high in fat are not easily digested. They can result in nausea and further dehydration as they pull from the body's fluid stores to process. ♦

Aware of a Potentially Dangerous Product? – Report it!

Have you seen a consumer product that is potentially dangerous? As emergency responders, fire personnel come in contact with many consumer products that might be potentially dangerous. By collecting some information and reporting the product, the resulting action might include: modification of the product at the manufacturing level or a possible recall of the product. Through the years, the Department of Fire Services (DFS) has been assisting in the compilation of information and then conveying it to the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) for possible action. On average, DFS provides local CPSC investigators with approximately 30 incident samples each year. The vast majority of these incident products are initiated by the local fire departments.

The CPSC is an independent federal regulatory agency created in 1972 by Congress as a result of the Consumer Product Safety Act. In the law, Congress directed the CPSC to “protect the public against unreasonable risks of injuries and deaths associated with consumer products.”

The CPSC has jurisdiction over about 15,000 types of consumer products, from automatic-drip coffee makers to toys to lawn mowers. Some types of products, however, are covered by other federal agencies; for example, Department of Transportation (DOT) covers motor vehicles, while the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) covers foods, drugs and cosmetics.

The CPSC works to reduce the risk of injuries and deaths from consumer products by:

- Developing voluntary standards with industry;

- Issuing and enforcing mandatory standards; banning consumer products if no feasible standard would adequately protect the public;
- Obtaining the recall of products or arranging for their repair;
- Conducting research on potential product hazards;
- Informing and educating consumers through the media, state and local governments, private organizations, and by responding to consumer inquiries.

To Report Through DFS

If you would like to report a potentially dangerous consumer product to the CPSC through the DFS, please compile following information:

Information needed from the local fire department:

- Fire Department name.
- Fire Department contact person name and their contact number.
- A copy of the fire incident report (MFIRS Report), if applicable.
- Maintain the product as evidence for possible CPSC collection and laboratory examination.

Information needed from the product owner;

- Name of the owner of the product and their contact information.
- Product name, model number and manufacturer.
- When and where the product was purchased.
- A description of the problem with the product.
- Any previous problems that the consumer had with the product.

Once the previous information has been collected, please contact Fire Protection Engineer Jacob Nunnemacher at (978) 567-3377 or Jacob.Nunnemacher@state.ma.us. ♦

Turning Over in the Grave

By Ronny J. Coleman

Reprinted with permission from *Sprinkler Age Magazine*, July 2006 and Ronny Coleman.

Who amongst you has not heard of the one paragraph statement made by Fire Chief Ed Croker about what it is like to be a fireman? I have heard it read at graduation ceremonies for rookie firefighters. I have seen it printed on the inner pages of programs for fire chief appointments, and I myself have used it as a direct quote in my book *Going for Gold*. Ed Croker was a tough guy. He was a tough firefighter. He was among the best of his generation. Here is his quote:

"I have no ambition in this world but one, and that is to be a fireman. The position may, in the eyes of some, appear to be a lowly one; but we who know the work which a fireman has to do believe that his is a noble calling. There is an adage which says that, 'Nothing can be destroyed except by fire.' We strive to preserve from destruction the wealth of the world, which is the product of the industry of men, necessary for the comfort of both the rich and the poor. We are defenders from fires of the art which has beautified the world, the product of the genius of men and the means, of refinement of mankind. But, above all, our proudest endeavor is to save lives of men – the work of God himself. Under the impulse of such thoughts, the nobility of the occupation thrills us and stimulates us to deeds of daring, even at the supreme sacrifice. Such considerations may not strike the average mind, but they are sufficient to fill to the limit our ambition in life and to make use serve the general purpose of human society." – Edward Croker, fire chief, City of New York.

As well we all know, somebody who had been an active fire chief around the turn of the century is very unlikely to be part of the dialogue today. Yet, I have used the very words spoken by Chief Croker recently in response to a statement that was given to me by a beleaguered fire marshal.

In actuality, the fire marshal did not contact me directly, but through an intermediary who sent me a copy of

a memo. In that memo, the fire marshal was asking for help to solve a problem for his local firefighters who were doing everything they could to stop the development of a sprinkler ordinance because some how or other they felt that it was destroying job security.

Chief Croker must have turned over in his grave when he heard that statement. It had to have been disturbing to him for the very simple reason that when he was alive, he was one of the best firefighters in this



Triangle Shirtwaist Fire

country and also one of the strongest advocates of built-in fire protection technology. You see he was spurred on by the Triangle Shirtwaist Fire in which hundreds of young women perished due to a lack of adequate fire protection devices in place to prevent them from burning or being forced to jump to their deaths. While he was equally capable of pounding his fist on his desk to obtain resources to do the job of a fire department, he was equally fervent in his desire to make his community as safe as possible.

Croker is not alive today, but his spirit still is in the FDNY. I recently had an opportunity to read a book called *First In, Last Out* by John Salka. Chief Salka is another one of those born in the USA-type fire chiefs who is not the least bit afraid to take on a controversy or conflagration with equal enthusiasm.

In his book, he makes the following quote:

"What very few people know is that Chief Croker almost lost his job when he started taking on the politicians in the great City of New York, demanding that some of the more critical buildings in town be given sprinkler protection in order for his courageous firefighters to be able to even have a fighting chance of doing their job. In many ways he was successful. In many ways he was a failure.

He was successful in that the City of New York for many years did pay very close attention to fire codes in buildings and there were changes that resulted in built-in technology being used more in New York because of his efforts. He was a failure in that he wasn't able to do everything. But then again who is."

Going back to my comments to the very frustrated fire marshal, I told him that there is nothing he is going to be able to do to change the mind of people who do not understand what fire protection is all about in the first place. You see protecting our community is not about our jobs and us; it is about lives and property. When I entered this business 40 years ago, there were fewer firefighters than there are on the face of the earth today. I had actively been involved in the sprinklering of large numbers of single-family dwellings, apartment houses, and commercial buildings and yet, at the same time, I hired literally hundreds of firefighters and gave them assignments that dealt with responding to the emergency needs of my communities.

I cannot believe that anybody who calls themselves a professional in the field of fire protection believes that eliminating sprinkler systems somehow or another results in job security. It is actually almost the opposite. Any community that doesn't see the wisdom of putting sprinkler systems in place probably doesn't understand

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Turning Over in the Grave

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the wisdom of why they need a fire station in a specific location, nor do they clearly understand what an effective response force is, nor do they have any sense of perspective on the training and education needs of their firefighters. In short, any community that would ignore the use of built-in fire protection logic is probably going to be immune to dealing with any logic whatsoever.

I have heard all of these same arguments myself. One of the reasons I think these arguments are even made is that there is no single philosophy or doctrine of loyalty in the fire community with respect to our mission. Whenever decisions in fire protection boil down to personal preference or worse yet, self-interest, then it is very difficult to argue them. It is just too emotional. In my response to the fire marshal, I questioned in my mind whether anybody who would make a statement of that nature has never been to a serious fatal fire. Moreover, I wonder if they have ever been to a multi-fatality fire. No one who has ever had that experience is going to walk away by saying, "Gee, we would only save more people if we would have just had ten more guys on duty tonight." It is not that simple. Take a look at the fires in Rhode Island. Take a look at what happened at the Beverly Hills Supper Club. Take a look at what happened at the Ponet Square Fire in Los Angeles.

I will be the first among you to argue that fact that we need an effective response force on-duty in order to cope with a wide array of emergencies and risk levels that exist in our communities. I am not now, nor have ever been, in favor of reducing staffing levels based upon the existence of built-in fire protection devices. I have made statements and will continue to make statements that when you are balancing out a fire protection delivery system, you need to control your hazards as much as you possibly can so that your use of taxpayers money is as cost effective as possible. I think that that is a doctrine that the fire service benefits from.

But if you have even been to one of

those multiple fatal fires and if you have ever had to remove a person who is badly burned but still alive because you couldn't get there fast enough to save them, then you have to understand the balance that this is all about. In another column and in several speeches I have told the story of how I got involved in sprinkler protection because of the death of a 13 year-old girl in a multi-story apartment house at three o'clock one morning. I don't want to repeat the whole story because it is too lengthy, but it actually boiled down to the fact that as a battalion chief that previous week I had gone on a huge fire in a fiberglass factory that was confined basically to a drum as a result of a major discharge of sprinkler heads. It was then followed up by this three o'clock in the morning structure fire in which a 13 year-old girl died leaving claw marks on the inside of a wall because she could not escape a fire that came out of her living room.

Further, in my response to the fire marshal I was reminded that this sort of discussion reminds me of the old cliché, "Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus." If someone believes in Santa Claus then they understand the spirit and intent of what Christmas is all about. But, if they don't believe in Santa Claus nothing will ever get them to understand the impact of the concept. I would like to replace it with, "Yes, fire marshal, there is a fire service after sprinklers." I believe that and I believe that there is ample evidence that others believe it.

In preparing my response to this, I did have a conversation with a couple of folks about their perceptions about why anybody would feel that way. It was pointed out to me that sometimes people just don't know what they don't know. That beleaguered fire marshal should know that the statements being made by the uniformed is not necessarily a justification for changing his personal philosophy.

Those who believe in sprinklers should continue to fight the good fight. The courage of a person's conviction is often much more an

indication of their ability to be a hero than the mere act of doing something physical in a spontaneous fashion. I had a conversation once with a friend of mine who was a bona fide war hero. His comment to me was that heroes in combat are people who got very angry and got very lucky at the same time.

So, it is possible for a group of firefighters to show up at a hearing in which you are contemplating sprinkler ordinances. It is also possible that they will do things that will distract from the sprinkler ordinance by claiming that it has some impact on them personally. That argument is intellectually bankrupt.

If you ask me what I want on the fire ground, it is the best trained, most highly competent, capable, caring individuals who I can get my hands on. I believe that they have all the right in the world to ask for and seek the benefits and the rewards for putting their lives on the line every single solitary day. However, I do not believe that it is appropriate for any person who has made that commitment to community life and property to denigrate and disgrace a proven tool in the arsenal of fire protection.

Chief Croker, if you are watching this from afar, please understand that the utterances do not drown out the message that you sent 100 years ago. ♦

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Ronny J. Coleman is president of the Fire and Emergency Television Network (FETN). He is the former California State Fire Marshal, past president of the International Association of Fire Chiefs, and currently serves as chairman of the Board of Trustees for the Commission on Fire Accreditation, International and the NFPA Committee on Fire Protection in the Motion Picture and Television Industry. Coleman was honored by AFSA as 1989 recipient of the Henry S. Parmalee Award.

MFIRS Coding Tips

Springtime Means Brush Fires

Wildland Fires

Please remember that even if you are using 3rd party software you have the option of using the Fire Module instead of the Wildland Module.

The Wildland Module is an **optional** module that may be used for any of the following Incident Types: 140-143, 160, 170-173, 561, 631 and 632. If your software program does not allow this option please contact your vendor and remind them. If you have any problems, have them contact me at the number below.

In MA we strongly recommend that you use the Fire Module for these types of fires.

Permit Fires and Unauthorized Burning

If you respond to a permit fire that you have to extinguish, code as an Incident Type = 631: Authorized controlled fire or 632: Prescribed fire. If the fire expands beyond the focus of the permit, then use an Incident Type = 140-143.

- Do not use Cause of Ignition = 1: Intentional. This is reserved for arsons.
- Use either Cause of Ignition = 2: Unintentional or 4: Act of Nature depending on the reason the fire got out of control.

If you respond to an illegal burning use Incident Type = 561: Unauthorized burning.

Mulch Fires

Mulch fires should be coded as Incident Type = 140: Natural vegetation fire, other.

Do not code any fires as Incident Type = 100: Fire, other, unless it does not fit into any of the other incident types between 111 and 173.

Outside Rubbish Fires

If you have an outside rubbish fire, it should be coded as an Incident Type = 150-155. Do not use Incident Type = 118: Confined trash or rubbish fire **in a structure**.

Carbon Monoxide

Although you are not mandated to report these incidents to MFIRS, we strongly encourage you to submit these incidents. Many fire departments are already reporting these serious incidents and we thank them for their diligence in helping track this potentially life-threatening problem. When finishing the Basic Module be sure to complete the Detector field to record whether the CO detector alerted the occupants. ♦

2006 MFIRS Year End & Quality Control Reports

We are planning on closing the 2006 MFIRS reporting cycle by April 30th. To accomplish this we need your help in performing quality control on your reports as soon as possible. During March 2007, we sent out 2006 MFIRS Year End and Quality Control Reports to each fire department that submitted 2006 data. Please check our reports with your in-house statistics and notify us of any changes as soon as possible. If you have not submitted any or all of your 2006 incidents, please do so as soon as possible. If you did not have any reportable fires, please have your chief, sign and date the Certificate of No Reportable Fires that was sent to him or her in January and February.

The statistical feedback reports include *2006 Incident Submission by Month* and *2006 Fires & Arson Fires by Incident Type*.

The quality control reports include:

- *2006 Incidents Returned to Department Corrected Forms Not Received by DFS,*
- *2006 Incidents Missing the Arson/Juvenile Firesetters Module.*

- *2006 Error Validation Report, 2006 Fires Under Investigation,*
- *2006 Structure Fires With Incorrect or No Property Use,*
- *Electrical Fires with No Equipment Involved,*
- *2006 Civilian Fire Casualty Modules with Missing Data for Any Fields,*
- *2006 Fire Service Casualty Modules with Missing Data for Any Fields.*
- *2006 Response Time Report.* ♦

Response Times

There has been an increase in interest in fire department response times lately. Beginning with the 2006 Year End & Quality Control Feedback Reports, we are including a Response Time Report that will list any of your incidents with a reported response time of 20 minutes or greater. Most of these errors are caused by typos, transposing numbers, or by not paying attention to the date portion of the Arrival Date & Last Unit Cleared Date. We suggest that each fire department also perform their own quality control on response times on a locally decided upon schedule, as these are public documents and can be requested by anyone.

Upon researching this issue further, we have also discovered that some departments are classifying fire & blasting details, inspections and school visits as MFIRS incidents. This practice is incorrect and should not be continued. All of these services, although warranted and highly valuable to fire departments and the public alike, are usually scheduled appointments and part of Fire Prevention, not operations. These types of services should not be tracked on MFIRS as they are not 'emergency' type calls that someone has called the fire department for immediate assistance. ♦

Electronic Reporting

The email address to send your

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Pre-Fab Plans Not Always Complete

Pre-fab buildings seem like the best way to go for a property owner looking for open space commercial structures. The building is cheap and can be put up quickly. In addition to selling and delivering pre-assembled major building components, the pre-fab company typically supplies the builder with stamped plans that can be submitted to the building department for a building permit.

So what is wrong? Typically, the engineer stamp on pre-fab building plans is from a structural engineer and is intended to be an indication that a structural engineering analysis has been performed on the building. The analysis ensures that the building can resist applicable wind, snow, and seismic loads. If the town/city assumes that the engineer stamp is indicating that a Construction Control review of all building code provisions has been performed, then the town/city could let pass necessary fire and life safety features.

In one project that was forwarded to the Fire Protection Engineers in the Office of the State Fire Marshal for review, a property owner's builder obtained a building permit from the local building department based on the submission of pre-fab building plans stamped by a structural engineer. The property owner did not realize, until after the building

was erected, that the building would require a fire sprinkler system and fire alarm system based on the use of the building. The owner made an assumption based on the fact that the original building being replaced had no fire sprinkler system and that drawings stamped by a Professional Engineer, showing just the building, were supplied. To complicate matters, the building was constructed too close to the property line given the use of the building and the fact that the metal clad building had no exterior fire-resistance rating.

There are other considerations that have been overlooked for pre-fab buildings: whether or not the building has compliant means of egress, especially if the pre-fab construction is an addition to an existing building; and whether or not the building needs special fire safety features associated with High Hazard Use Groups, such as increased ventilation, explosion venting, and flammable gas detection.

How to contact an OSFM Fire Protection Engineer: if your jurisdiction contains, or is south of, the Mass Pike - contact Jake Nunnemacher at 978-567-3377 or jacob.nunnemacher@dfs.state.ma.us. For jurisdictions north of the Mass Pike - contact Dana Haagensen at 978-567-3376 or dana.haagensen@dfs.state.ma.us. ♦

MFIRS

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electronic MFIRS reports to is: MFIRS.Report@state.ma.us. One or two days after your first submission via email please call Derryl Dion at (978) 567-3382 to confirm its receipt. If you are reporting electronically you should be sending us your reports on a monthly basis during the first two weeks of the following month. Your submission file should be an attached file to the email, not a part of the email's text and you should have your department's name and the date range of your submission in the subject line. ♦

Assistance & Getting Information Back

Please contact Derryl Dion, Research Analyst at (978) 567-3382 or Derryl.Dion@state.ma.us with any questions regarding MFIRS or to conduct fire data or histories research. ♦

Nicole's Law Working

This has been the first winter heating season since Nicole's Law took effect requiring most homes to install carbon monoxide alarms by March 31, 2006. Here are some of the stories about how effective the law has been in saving lives this year.

On December 5, 2006, at approximately 9:30 p.m., the Boston Fire Department responded to an emergency carbon monoxide call in an apartment building. CO detectors in multiple apartments were activated. It was determined that the CO was coming from the residents' heating units. Five residents were transported to the hospital for evaluation.

On December 5, 2006, the Hardwick Fire Department was called to a single-family home for a carbon monoxide detector going off. Someone had pulled a vehicle out of the garage and left it running to 'warm up' next to the house. Detectors sounded and the occupants called 911. Fire department personnel metered the home and their monitoring equipment had readings of over 300 ppm. All three adult occupants were transported to the hospital for CO poisoning.

On December 26, 2006, at approximately 4:00 p.m., the Holden Fire Department was called to a single-family home for multiple carbon monoxide detectors going off. The store bought detectors were registering approximately 30+ ppm. Firefighters evacuated the building, sampled the air inside with their own detectors and then vented the building with positive pressure ventilation. All four occupants of the home, two children and two adults, were transported to a local hospital for observation and treatment.

On January 19, 2007, the Brook-

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Federal Grants to Massachusetts Fire Departments

Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program - FY 2006 Award Recipients

Last Updated: 02/16/2007 -
www.firegrantsupport.com

The primary goal of the Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG) is to meet the firefighting and emergency response needs of fire departments and nonaffiliated emergency medical services organizations. Since 2001, AFG has helped firefighters and other first responders to obtain critically needed equipment, protective gear, emergency vehicles, training, and other resources needed to protect the public and emergency personnel from fire and related hazards. The Office of Grants and Training in the Department of Homeland Security administers the grants in cooperation with the U.S. Fire Administration. For fiscal year 2005, Congress reauthorized the Assistance to Firefighters Grants for an additional 5 years through 2010.



Department	Grant Category	Award	Round
Ashland FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$30,048	1
Berlin FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$122,925	1
Dennis FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$168,498	1
Hancock FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$37,734	1
Lexington FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$452,576	1
North Reading FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$128,679	1
Byfield FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$39,407	1
Russell FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$63,954	1
Westborough FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$141,212	1
Winchester FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$44,712	1
Ashby FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$76,056	3
Cummington FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$14,250	3
Hopedale FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$28,842	3
Southborough FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$88,350	3
Stoneham FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$33,120	3
Billerica FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$87,115	4
Hubbardston FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$109,107	4
Oxford FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$51,490	4
Norwood FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$192,598	5
Onset FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$34,474	5
Lanesborough FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$85,595	6
Canton FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$26,406	7
Medfield FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$114,589	7
Rowley FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$137,009	7
Turners Falls FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$54,378	8
Easton FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$90,990	9
Halifax FD	Vehicle Acquisition	\$285,000	9
Rutland FD	Vehicle Acquisition	\$227,050	9
Florida FD	Vehicle Acquisition	\$95,000	9
Bolton FD	Vehicle Acquisition	\$186,200	10
West Stockbridge FD	Vehicle Acquisition	\$171,000	10
Holliston FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$225,096	12
Pelham FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$40,850	12
Walpole FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$171,245	12
Dover FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$42,849	13
Leyden FD	Vehicle Acquisition	\$261,250	13
Medway FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$72,533	15

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Grants

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Pittsfield FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$313,023	15
Littleton FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$65,265	15
Northfield FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$36,615	15
Huntington FD	Vehicle Acquisition	\$190,000	15
Belmont FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$40,320	16
Boylston FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$107,244	16
Chicopee FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$166,600	16
Millbury FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$81,415	16
Monson FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$86,806	16
Sunderland FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$102,243	16
Wenham FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$89,205	16
Westport FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$180,356	17
Hanover FD	Ops & FF Safety	\$48,450	17

Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response

Last Updated: 01/26/2007 - www.firegrantsupport.com

The purpose of the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grants is to help fire departments increase the number of frontline firefighters. The goal is for fire departments to increase their staffing and deployment capabilities and ultimately attain 24-hour staffing, thus assuring that their communities have adequate protection from fire and fire-related hazards. The SAFER grants support two specific activities: (1) the hiring of firefighters, and (2) recruitment and retention of volunteer firefighters. The hiring of firefighters activity provides grants to pay for part of the salaries of newly hired firefighters over the 5-year program. SAFER is part of the Assistance to Firefighters Grants and is under the purview of the Office of Grants and Training of the Department of Homeland Security.

Massachusetts FY '06 SAFER Grant Awards

Department	Award	SAFER Round	Category
Fall River FD	\$621,000	1	Hiring
Littleton FD	\$207,000	2	Hiring
Cheshire FD	\$665,962	13	Recruitment



Nicole's Law Working

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line Fire Department was called to a public housing complex for a carbon monoxide call. The CO detector in the unit had activated. The fire department's CO meter discovered levels up to 24 ppm in the apartment. The occupant was evaluated outside by EMS personnel. The origin of the CO was determined to be the gas stove in the kitchen. It was subsequently shut off and the apartment was ventilated. CO levels dropped to 0 ppm.

At 10:05 a.m. on January 27, 2007, the Merrimac Fire Department was dispatched to a single-family home for a carbon monoxide alarm activation. CO levels of 34 ppm were found throughout the home with a high reading of 134 ppm adjacent to the fireplace. Upon arrival an elderly male occupant was complaining of dizziness and light-headedness. He was transported to a local hospital as a precautionary measure. The origin of the CO was hot embers buried in the ashes of the fireplace. It is believed that these embers were not producing enough heat to carry gases of combustion up the chimney, therefore filling the rest of the home with CO.

On February 1, 2007, the Waltham Fire Department responded to a carbon monoxide call in an apartment building with a restaurant on the first floor. A CO detector in one of the upstairs apartments activated and the occupants called 911. The fire department forced entry into a first floor restaurant. The department's CO meter had readings of 1,900 ppm. The source of the CO was a charcoal cooker that was left burning without any ventilation.

On February 6, 2007, at 1:07 a.m., the Merrimac Fire Department was dispatched to a two-family home for a carbon monoxide call. Upon arrival, firefighters found that the occupants were still in the building but had opened up

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DEPARTMENT OF FIRE SERVICES

SPECIAL OPERATIONS



For further information
or
for a scheduled event

Please call the
Special Operations
Office at

(978) 567-3171

or
visit the
DFS web site
at

www.mass.gov/dfs

The Department of Fire Services Special Operations team
can be activated to Support the Fire Service in the Commonwealth
24 hours a day seven days a week.

For an immediate response
of any of the resources

- » Incident Support Unit
- » Rehab Unit
- » Incident Support Trailer

Call
Massachusetts Emergency
Management Agency
Headquarters
(MEMA)

(508) 820-2000

You will be asked for:

- » The vehicle(s) needed
- » City or town of the incident
- » Contact name and number
- » Nature of the incident
- » Street address
(where the vehicle[s] should respond to)

Once a response has been activated the requesting agency will
be contacted with an ETA of the vehicle(s) and directions for the
incoming vehicles to the incident.

PUBLIC EDUCATION

S.A.F.E. Funding Restored

Governor Patrick and Secretary Burke have restored the FY '07 funds for the Student Awareness of Fire Education or S.A.F.E. Program cut by former Governor Romney. The Executive Office of Public Safety is working on preparing a grant application process and applications should be in fire chiefs' hands by the time this newsletter reaches them. This year there will be a small amount of funds for

DFS to help coordinate the program statewide as there has been every year since 1995 except last year.

In addition, the S.A.F.E. staff will be helping to get the DFS Sprinkler Demonstration Trailer/Fire Safety House out and around the state this spring. If you have a good idea for an community or public education event it should come to, contact the Public Education Unit. ♦

Northeast Juvenile Firesetting Conference – Pathways to Collaboration and Intervention

The Northeast Juvenile Firesetting Conference – Pathways to Collaboration and Intervention is being sponsored by the Brandon Residential Treatment Program and co-sponsored by the Department of Fire Services(DFS) and the Massachusetts Association of Fire and Safety Educators (MA SAFE). It will be held on Friday, May 11, 2007 at The Beechwood Hotel in Worcester,

MA. For more information log onto www.brandonschool.org. This conference will have workshops for all of the multi-disciplinary partners who interact with juvenile firesetters but will have a special focus on training for mental health providers. Mental health providers need specialized training to properly evaluate and treat these children and to successfully intervene in their behavior. ♦

12th Year of the Student Awareness of Fire Education (S.A.F.E.) Program (2006-2007)

3 Heroes in FY '07 215 heroes and counting!!!

Here are the stories of Young Heroes we know about from the S.A.F.E. Program this fiscal year.

Mansfield

★ *Lauren Melton and Kelsey Attaya*

On October 10, 2006 9-year old Lauren Melton and 10-year old Kelsey Attaya got off the bus together and heard a strange noise. They quickly realized it was a smoke alarm coming from a neighbor's house and saw smoke coming from a second floor window and noticed there were no cars in the driveway. They consciously split up and each called 9-1-1 from her own house to report the fire. They waited in front of the house to guide responding firefighters and alert them that the family dog was possibly trapped inside. The firefighters rescued the dog that stayed with the girls until the neighbors came

home. Firefighters credit the girls' actions with allowing them to quickly confine and contain the fire reducing the damage to the home and for saving the dog. Both girls credit the Mansfield S.A.F.E. Program for teaching them what to do in a fire emergency.

Marlborough

★ *6-year old Boy*

On December 21, 2006 at 10:30 a.m. a 6-year old boy called 9-1-1 to report a medical emergency saving an adult family member's life. He had received fire and life safety education from his parents and through the S.A.F.E. Program the year before in Kindergarten.

Fitchburg

★ *Jared B. Mc Closkey*

On November 1, 2006 at 3 a.m. 12-year old Jared was awakened by the

13th Annual Massachusetts Public Fire and Life Safety Education Conference- Save the Date!

The 13th Annual Massachusetts Public Fire and Life Safety Education Conference will be held September 26-27, 2007 at the Mansfield Holiday Inn. The theme of this conference is *Building Safer Communities*. Please save the date and ask schools, seniors and other community partners to do so as well. More information will be coming this spring. ♦



family dog. As he exited his bedroom, the smoke alarms had just begun to sound and he noticed flames on the rear porch outside the kitchen with smoke in the house. He immediately woke his 2-year old brother Alexander and his 1-year old sister Amber, wrapped them in blankets and led them safely out of the house. He then woke his parents and advised them that the house was on fire and insured their exit from the house. As they were leaving, Jared ran upstairs to waken his Uncle Jon Barto, his wife Beth and their two children, 3-year Megan and 8-month old Abigail. Jared's father was able to extinguish the porch fire with a garden hose prior to the fire department's arrival. Jared received his S.A.F.E. Education in the first grade and credits it with teaching him to respond correctly to the fire emergency that saved nine people including himself. ♦

LICENSING EXAMS

Licenses

The Office of the State Fire Marshal issues licenses to people and companies engaged in fireworks, blasting, explosives, cannon and mortar firing, special effects, special hazard systems and portable fire extinguishers. Information on applications and exam dates to obtain new licenses or to renew existing licenses may be obtained by calling (978) 567-3700. Examinations for licenses are held quarterly. Filing deadlines, exam locations, dates and times can be found online at: http://www.mass.gov/dfs/osfm/license_exams.htm. ♦

All licensing exams will be given at the Department of Fire Services, Stow campus, starting at 9 a.m. Arrangements may be made to take the scheduled exams on the same dates, at the same times at the western Massachusetts office of the Department of Fire Services, One Prince Street, Northampton.

2007 Exam Schedule

Examination	Deadline Date	Examination Date
Fireworks	April 30	May 10
Special Effects	August 6	August 15
Blasting	November 5	November 15
Fire Extinguishers	April 9	April 19
	July 16	July 25
	October 22	October 31

Status Report of Compliance and Enforcement Actions

The following is a status report of recent compliance and enforcement actions taken by the Office of the State Fire Marshal against individuals or companies for violations of MGL Chap. 148 and 527 CMR. The status of the action is provided and notation is made regarding the effective date of the action. While other actions may be pending, only those individuals or companies who have had administrative hearings with de-

cisions rendered will be documented in this space.

Should there be any question regarding the status of any license or certificate, please call the Office of the State Fire Marshal at any time for verification. The Code Compliance and Enforcement Unit or Technical Services can be reached at either (978) 567-3300 or in western Mass. (413) 587-3181. ♦

Compliance and Enforcement Actions By The Department of Fire Services

Name	Action Taken	Terms	Ends
Explosives User's Certificate			
National Technical Systems	2 yr. Suspension	1 yr. to serve, 1 yr. probation	2/7/2009
Blasting Certificate of Competency			
Mark F. Siders	Written warning 1/5/2007		
Christopher R. Decot	Written warning 1/6/2007		
Fire Equipment Certificate of Competency			
James Tecce	Permanent Revocation	Prohibited from ever again holding a business reg. of any kind from DFS	

Nicole's Law Working

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several windows for ventilation. Upon entering the home, the department's gas meter immediately registered 70 ppm just inside the front door. All of the occupants were evacuated and firefighters donned their SCBA before investigating the remainder of the house. Readings of greater than 200 ppm were found throughout the structure. The gas company was called to the scene and their technicians determined that the source of CO was a blocked furnace vent pipe. All fuel-burning appliances were turned off and the occupants were told to seek other accommodations until someone could come and fix the problem. None of the occupants complained of any signs or symptoms of CO poisoning and all declined further medical treatment. ♦



Recruit Firefighters Graduate State Firefighting Academy

State Fire Marshal Stephen D. Coan and Massachusetts Firefighting Academy Acting Director Kevin Partridge are pleased to announce the graduation of the 175th Class of the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy's sixty day Recruit Firefighting Program on March 30, 2007. Coan said, "This rigorous professional training provides our newest firefighters with the basic skills to perform their jobs effectively and safely." The Massachusetts Firefighting Academy, a division of the Department of Fire Services, offers this program, tuition-free.



Recruit Class #175

Photo by Jack Gelinas

70 Graduates From 38 Fire Departments

The seventy graduates, four women and 66 men, represent the thirty-eight fire departments of: Agawam, Bourne, Bridgewater, Canton, Chelsea, Dracut, Everett, Framingham, Franklin, Gardner, Gloucester, Halifax, Holden, Lancaster, Lynn, Malden, Marblehead, Marlborough, Marshfield, Melrose, Methuen, Middleborough, Natick, Newburyport, Norfolk, Northampton, Norwell, Plainville, Plymouth, Salem, Shrewsbury, Sudbury, Wakefield, Ware, Westfield, Weston, and Yarmouth.

Basic Firefighter Skills

Students receive classroom training in all basic firefighter skills. They practice first under non-fire conditions and then during controlled fire conditions. To graduate, students must demonstrate proficiency in life safety, search and rescue, ladder operations, water supply, pump operation, and fire attack. Fire attack operations range from mailbox fires to multiple-floor or multiple room structural fires. Upon successful completion of the Recruit Program all students have met national standards of National Fire Protection Association 1001 and are certified to the level of Firefighter I and II, and Hazardous Materials First Responder Operational Level by the Massachusetts Fire Training Council. ♦

New Fire Chiefs' Orientation

This seminar will be held on:

April 10, 2007
from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
at the
Devens Conference Center
Devens, MA

The purpose of this one-day presentation is to provide fire chiefs, who are new to their position, an opportunity to learn of the assistance available from a number of public and private sector agencies and entities with which they will interact. As a participant in this orientation, the fire chief will have the opportunity to ask questions of, and receive critical contact information from a number of key organizations that serve the Massachusetts fire service. In addition, there will be experienced fire chiefs present to assist the newer chiefs in making the most of the day while expanding their contact network. ♦